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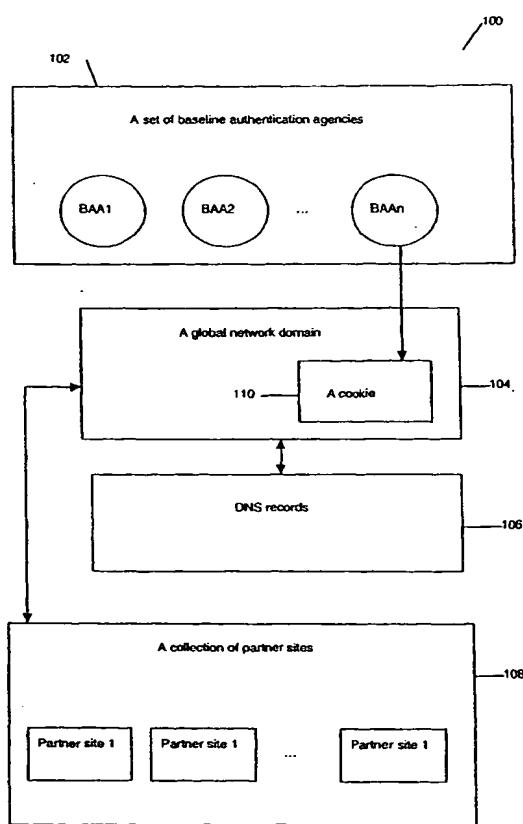
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(54) Title: SEAMLESS CROSS-SITE USER AUTHENTICATION STATUS DETECTION AND AUTOMATIC LOGIN



(57) **Abstract:** A system and method for determining in a global network the user network authentication status as the user goes from site to site within the network is provided. Additionally, the system and method provides for transparent or implicit multi-site logon functionality, including automatic introduction from one site to the other using a baseline authentication agency (102). The system and method provides an architecture for a core global network (100) (referred to herein as NET) that incorporates some or all of the following features and components: a set of baseline authentication agencies responsible for the core global network (NET) services, such as login and user-selected service-provider lookup; a shared NET domain and associated DNS records (106) used for cookie (110) sharing, login routing, and the like; and a collection of partner sites (108) accessible via the NET.

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